



COMMISSIONER PROFILE

COMMISSIONER LYNN BAHRYCH

Commissioner Lynn Bahrych's happiest childhood memories are from her grandparents' farm in the Oklahoma panhandle. She spent summers there working in her grandmother's kitchen, garden, gathering eggs, churning butter, and helping with cattle branding. She was born in California, but spent her childhood in Oklahoma and Colorado.

Education, Degrees & Teaching

Lynn attended college at Stanford University from 1965 to 1969, graduating with Honors in Humanities. She moved to Austin, Texas, after Stanford and received a Master's Degree in English Education from the University of Texas. Lynn then taught high school English in Austin, where she loved Texas-style barbecue.

Lynn moved to Seattle in 1971 to attend graduate school at the University of Washington. She received a Ph.D. in Medieval and Renaissance Literature in 1977 and a law degree from the U.W. Law School in 1985. While at the U.W., she taught English in both the English Department and the Law School.

Publications

Lynn published a book on legal writing, now in its third edition, entitled Legal Writing in a Nutshell, published by Thomson-West, a major law publisher.

Law

After law school, Lynn won a clerkship with Judge Carolyn Dimmick of the United States District Court in Seattle, where she worked for one year before beginning private practice at the law firm of Bogle & Gates.

Lynn practiced Maritime and Admiralty law in Seattle for ten years before focusing exclusively on land use and environmental law.

Committees, Organizations, & Appointments

Lynn moved to the San Juan Islands in 1981, but continued to practice law in Seattle until 1991.

Lynn has been active in numerous non-profit environmental groups, including serving on the boards of the Washington Environmental Council, People for Puget Sound, and serving as the president for two years of Friends of the San Juans. She is now serving as the Legal Director for the Washington Environmental Council and as a board vice president for the Friends of the San Juans.

Conservation Commission

In January of 2004, Governor Gary Locke appointed Lynn to the



Commissioner Lynn Bahrych

Conservation Commission.

Lynn's interest in this appointment stems from her desire to promote sustainable and environmentally sound agriculture, especially for family farmers and family foresters. She is very new at the job, and is excited about new ideas for sustaining family farming in Washington State.

Family

Lynn has one daughter, living in Seattle, and three grandchildren, aged 2, 4, and 9. Most of the rest of her family lives in Denver, although she has dozens of cousins still in Oklahoma farm country.

Spare Time

In her spare time, she paddles her kayak around Shaw Island, where she lives, rides her bicycle, combs the beaches for treasures, pulls weeds in her garden, and reads Scientific American and Sunset. One of her favorite pastimes is to drive or bicycle through the Skagit Valley's farmlands. She buys fresh produce at the roadside farms throughout the year, and is working with Skagitonians to Preserve Farmland to make sure that her grandchildren will be able to enjoy the Valley's great food and beautiful farms.

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FROM THE CHAIR...TRACY ERIKSEN



The legislature has done it's work for the year. We at the Commission realized that this was going to be another tough year for money issues in the legislature with the state budget still in the red. When the process finally worked it's way to completion and the legislature closed it's session for the year, we were amazed to find that we had prevailed beyond all expectations. CREP was funded for near-term

needs, and the process put in place to finish out the program as originally intended (\$20 million of state money). There was \$250,000 funded for districts to work with livestock operations which are coming under increasing pressure to comply with EPA regulations for water quality.

Our success is a testament to Conservation Districts and the work that they do. Our success is a testament to the leadership of WACD and the commitment of District supervisors that make that body work. Our success is a testament to the Commission, the staff, the members and the partner agencies that make the Commission work.

THANK YOU ALL FOR A
JOB WELL DONE!

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Tracy Eriksen".

WSCC Chair

WASHINGTON STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION VALUES

The Conservation Commission respects and honors both private and public land, as well as resources and people. We demonstrate this by valuing:

- Diverse ideas and cultures.
- The importance of voluntary, incentive-based actions supported by regulations in protecting natural resources.
- Natural resource based industries and their economic contribution.
- Accountability.
- A systematic approach to problem solving.
- Local and community based priorities.
- Partnerships at local, state, federal and Tribal levels.
- Land ethic and conservation practices.

2005-07 STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

On April 26, the Commission held a Special Meeting to approve the 2005-07 Strategic Plan.

The Commission is dedicated to fulfilling these Goals:

- 1.** Protect and enhance Washington State's natural resource systems by utilizing the unique, local conservation program delivery system of the Conservation Commission and 48 Conservation Districts with private land managers.
- 2.** Increase the match grant funds that can be utilized as seed money to secure additional local, state, and federal funding sources for natural resource improvements as well as meet the statutory requirements for funding conservation district in RCW 89.08.410.
- 3.** Each of the 48 Conservation Districts will be provided training and assistance from the Conservation Commission to be successful in the local community.
- 4.** Promote conservation and raise awareness of the role the Conservation Commission and Conservation Districts play in improving natural resources in concert with private landowners in Washington State.
- 5.** The Conservation Commission will have a clearer, concise, and timely policy and procedure adoption for all grant programs and legislative action.
- 6.** Build opportunities for district supervisors and employees to participate in advancing conservation as well as raising awareness of the role of the Conservation Commission and Conservation Districts in providing assistance to landowners to improve natural resources.

To see the complete Conservation Commission Strategic Plan go to the Commission website at:
http://filecab.scc.wa.gov/Commission/FY_05-07_Strategic_Plan/WSCC_FY_05-07_Strategic_Plan.pdf

VIM WRIGHT AWARD AND ENDOWMENT FUND



Vim Wright

Vim Wright was appointed in 1995 by Governor Lowry to serve as a Commissioner of the Conservation Commission. In 1999, Governor Locke reappointed Vim to serve another four years (2003). Vim served as Chair and Vice Chair during her term with the Commission.

Vim was a dedicated Commissioner who truly served the districts and brought their concerns and issues to a *higher level making a huge impact within and outside state government.*

Vim served on the House Bill 1309 Ecosystems Standards for State-Owned Agricultural and Grazing Land process which developed technical standards to be applied to state leases for agricultural lands.

Prior to coming to the Commission, Vim was the Assistant Director of the Institute for Environmental Studies at the University of Washington.

2004 Vim Wright Stewardship Award

The competition is sponsored by Farming & the Environment, a non-profit organization working with stakeholders from both the farming and environmental communities to

enable farmers, environmentalists, ranchers, and conservationists to work together to improve the stewardship of agricultural lands and protect the economic viability of farming in the State of Washington.

Since inception, this effort was lead by Vim who began working thirty years ago to bring the agricultural and environmental communities together.

Nominations are being accepted for the first Annual Vim Wright Stewardship Award and must be submitted by June 30, 2004. The annual statewide award will honor an individual or team of operators that recognize, appreciate and implement stewardship of the natural resources they manage. The winner will receive a cash award of \$2,500 and be recognized at a banquet on October 23, 2004 in Ellensburg, Washington.

For more details about the 2004 Vim Wright Stewardship Award visit: www.farmingandtheenvironment.org or email: info@farmingandtheenvironment.org

Vim Wright Endowment Fund

The Washington Environmental Council created an Endowment Fund in honor of Vim to be used to protect and nurture Washington's environmental health and welfare through avenues such as facilitating communications, research, and internships. It will also recognize outstanding efforts through this award.

If you would like to contribute or would like more information please contact Kathy Malley at 206.622.8103, ext. 206.



SUSTAINABILITY

A few suggestions on recycling and reuse:

Packaging

- Use shredded waste paper to replace purchased packaging materials.
- Reuse package "cushioning" (peanuts, bubble wrap, etc.)
- Some Mailboxes, Etc. will take package cushioning donations for reuse—even Styrofoam!
- Reuse boxes, envelopes and poster tubes. Recycle what you cannot reuse.
- Request reduced packaging/reusable packaging from suppliers.

Reuse

- Donate binders and other supplies to agencies, CDs, or other community groups.
- Reuse envelopes with adhesive labels.
- Share office equipment if you are collocated with another agency.

Recycling

- Recycle aluminum, glass, plastic, tin, white and mixed paper.
- Recycle CDs, floppy disks, toner cartridges, and fluorescent lighting and ballasts.
- Recycle computers and electronics where available. Transfer to another agency or CD.
- Always put recycling and trash cans together for efficiency and consistency.
- Centralize trash and recycling.
- Check to see if bright colors and yellow, glossy paper, staples, and envelope "windows" are contaminants in your paper recycling program and eliminate their use.

WSSC Sustainability Plan:





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CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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*We help protect, conserve and
enhance natural resources.*

Our Website:

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PLEASE COPY
AND DISTRIBUTE!

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COMMISSION CALENDAR

MAY

- 1 WSCC Strategic Plan Due
CD Annual Plans Due
CD Basic Funding Applications
and CD Internal Audit Report Due
- 5 Envirothon (S Douglas)
- 6 Envirothon (Thurston)
- 11 Envirothon (Pend Oreille)
- 17-18 WACD Officers & Directors
Meeting, Red Lion Hotel, Pasco
- 19 WSCC Commission Planning
Work Session in the morning,
Red Lion Hotel, Pasco
Tour & Interactive Dinner
arranged by Benton CD
- 20 WSCC Commission Meeting
Red Lion Hotel, Pasco
- 24 State Envirothon (Lake
Wenatchee)

JUNE

- 2 Spokane/Seattle POG Town Hall
Meeting—Contact Ryan Agnew
360.902.4110
- 3 Rural Landscapes Tour
- 4 Vim Wright Gathering—for more
information: 206.622.1340
- 11 PSAT Meeting
- 14-16 WADE Training Conference
- 17 Parks & Rec Meeting (Clarkston)
- 24-25 SRFB Meeting
- 30 State Budget Fiscal Year End
Vim Wright Stewardship Award
Nomination Deadline



JULY

- 14 WSCC Tour & Interactive Dinner
hosted by Skagit CD
- 15 WSCC Commission Meeting,
WACD Plant Materials Center
- 29 Wildlife Farmer/Steward of the
Year Nominations Due
- 31 WSCC Quarterly Reports Due

WADE TRAINING CONFERENCE

Do More in 2004

June 14-16
Sleeping Lady Retreat
Leavenworth, Washington
For more information go to
<http://wade.scc.wa.gov/>

The Conservation Conversation newsletters are available online at:

<http://filecab.scc.wa.gov/index.html?DIR=Commission/Newsletters>